

Title I Committee of Practitioners Meeting

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

1:00 – 3:00 pm

DSEA Board Room

136 Water St., Dover, DE 19901

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE ✓ (Present) ✕ (Absent)

Committee Members:

- ✓ Nicholas Baker
- ✓ Matthew Burrows, Ed.D.
- ✓ John Carwell
- ✕ Maribeth Courtney
- ✕ Edward Emmett, Jr.
- ✕ Virginia (Jinni) Forcucci
- ✓ Eulinda Gallagher
- ✕ Donna Hall
- ✓ Yvonne Johnson
- ✕ Sister LaVerne King, RSM
- ✕ Emily Klein
- ✓ John W. Marinucci, Ed.D
- ✓ Arizona Prinkey

Other Attendees:

- ✓ Robert Bennett, DOE
- ✓ Raifu Durodoye, DOE
- ✓ Susan Haberstroh, DOE
- ✓ Mark Phelps, Ed.D. Red Clay School District
- ✓ Pam Reed, DOE
- ✓ Michael Rodriguez (Ex-Officio), DOE
- ✓ June Sudler, DOE
- ✓ Philip Keefer, DOE

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Matthew Burrows called the meeting to order. Introductions were made by all.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the November 13, 2018 meeting were reviewed by the committee. Seeing no changes or corrections, motion was made by John Marinucci and seconded to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Dr. Burrows abstained from this vote since he was not present at the November 13, 2018 meeting.

COMMITTEE REVIEW OF DRAFT COMMITTEE BY-LAWS

Members received a draft copy of operating by-laws for the Title I Committee of Practitioners for review. There was general discussion on Article I, Article II, and Article VII, and revisions were submitted.

In **Article I, Section 1.2 Title I Statement of Purpose** –Committee recommend replacing the sentence listed with committee of practitioners ESSA language as read. All agreed. New language as follows:

- A. *Ensure that any State rules, regulations, and policies relating to this title conform to the purposes of this title and provide any such proposed rules, regulations, and policies to the committee of practitioners created under subsection (b) for review and comment;*
- B. *Minimize such rules, regulations, and policies to which the State's local educational agencies and schools are subject;*
- C. *Eliminate or modify State and local fiscal accounting requirements in order to facilitate the ability of schools to consolidate funds under schoolwide programs;*
- D. *Identify any such rule, regulation, or policy as a State-imposed requirement;*

- E. *Identify any duplicative or contrasting requirements between the State and Federal rules or regulations;*
- F. *Eliminate the State rules and regulations that are duplicative of Federal requirements.*

Article II - Section 2.2 - Appointments, Terms, Vacancy, and Removal – Members agreed to include the following language for statement A. (c.)

Members shall receive no compensation, nor reimbursement for any expenses from the Delaware Department of Education.

Article VII – Section 7.1 Conflict of Interest – Corporation of National & Community Service (CNCS) documentation was requested by COP member John Carwell. CNCS items to consider, and generic conflict of interest policy are attached to the minutes [insertion] This needs to be read and approved by the committee]. The Title I Committee of Practitioners, tasked to focus on Title I – Part A, does not prohibit discussing all Title programs.

Revised Operating By-laws will be updated and sent to the committee and voted at the next meeting with full committee.

Question posed: How are we meeting or convening requirements “3 per year” [insertion] discussed later in meeting.

DISCUSSION OF OPT-OUT & 95% PARTICIPATION RATE REQUIREMENTS

There was brief discussion. Recently, Raifu went out for monitoring and pointed out the State opt-out policy. Chart was shared. “Annually, LEAs shall notify the parents of each student attending that they may request, and the LEA will provide the parents on request (in in a timely manner), information regarding any State or LEA policy regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by the State or LEA which shall include a policy, procedure, or parental right to opt the child out of such assessment, where applicable.”

Examples of evidence DDOE will accept during Title I on-site monitoring include:
Notice to parents explaining their rights to request assessment and assessment participation information; Notice of right to opt children out of the assessment; Proof of dissemination.

The Delaware Department of Education’s legal department said DDOE no longer needs to monitor whether or not this opt-out statement will be sent out to all parents regarding this policy. LEAs may have policies or resolutions for parents to opt-out. Yvonne believes most of the opt-out came from high schools. Most LEAs have a procedure/resolution on how they restate the policy, but encourage parents not to opt-out. Christina and Sussex Tech have a policy. Does the DDOE need to monitor their policy? There was discussion and agreement that the LEA’s policies need to be monitored by the LEA, not DDOE.

OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR EL/LOW-INCOME STUDENTS (Informational)

Dr. Susan Haberstroh, Director, School Support Service at DOE provided Epilogue language for HB50 (Section 344) and HB51 (Section1). Dr. Haberstroh shared some general information on Opportunity Funding that is in the FY20 Governor’s recommended appropriations bill: HB50, section 344 talks about adding additional funds. This year funding went to \$6 million based on 60% low income and 20% English Learners (EL). Her team has been working with schools that received funding this year. HB50 \$20 million total. Allocations next year will go to the district and charter school instead of a school. HB51

shows a one-time supplemental appropriation with possibility of continuing for additional year.

Funding is based on three years for English Learners and low income. It does not have to be spent in the school that qualifies. This would give the district the authority to priority the concentration of the funds. They could also be used to cover a salary to hire an EL coach that could be shared at multiple schools in the districts. Dr. Susan Bunting, Secretary of Education, has been working closely with the LEAs to submit an expenditure plan to the Department of Education by 7/10/19. When will the funding be available for the LEA? Can it be July 1st? Dr. Haberstroh will take that question back to DOE.

An evidence based practices tool-kit will be prepared by DOE. The DDOE is required to demonstrate that the funds spent are beneficial to the students. An outside consultant will be hired to evaluate the effectiveness of the funds and benefits for English Learners and Low Income students. It is important to remember that this is an outside unit funding, not a grant. Does the LEA need to be concerned with the local tax funding current specialist? It is not supplanting if they use the new funds for a new person. There were discussions regarding the funding and the low-income and English learner students who qualify.

NEXT STEPS & ADJOURNMENT

Voting – Committee vacancies. The committee chair must submit name to Deputy Secretary of Education for any replacements.

Motion was made by Yvonne Johnson and seconded by John Marinuci to replace Maribeth Courtney from Red Clay with Mark Phelps from Red Clay. Vote – all approved. Chairmain will make the recommendation to the Deputy Secretary of Education.

Voting – Must have three meetings per year. There was discussion for school year or fiscal year? Consider Late September, Jan/Feb, then May.

Motion made that the three meetings be held per school year. Seconded, Vote – all approved.

In order to meet this year's requirements, another meeting must take place before the end of June. Committee voted that the next meeting be set up before the end of May. Committee decided **Wednesday, May 15th from 1-3 pm.** Pam Reed will send out the meeting invite.

The committee agreed on the next meeting agenda items to include:

- Approval of April 9, 2019 minutes
- Committee finalize and vote on the updated by-laws
- Federal Monitoring Overhaul presentation by Philip Keefer and Robert Bennett
- Parent & Family Engagement Discussion

Some thought an update for opportunity grant funding would be helpful? Specifically, how the new opportunity grant funds would affect Title I funds. Mike Rodriguez said it is not really part of the purview for this committee. Constraints around state funds sometimes tie the LEAs hands.

Having no further business, motion was made, seconded, and carried by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Reed